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(REF NFAC 3028-79)
dtd 7 June 1979

NFAC 3147-79

14 June 1979

Memorandum for Dr. Bowie

Subject: Essay on Broadly Ranging Estimates

At your suggestion, I have inserted a sentence
on page 1 indicating that the paper deals with
political estimates only.

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Broadly Ranging Intelligence Estimates:
Analysis of Present Objections and Misgivings

NFAC's intelligence work is largely devoted to current reporting, background studies, incident-oriented estimates and research on special problems. Representing a much smaller volume, there are also NIEs and IIMs focusing mostly on a particular country or relatively narrow problems.

All these products are unquestionably useful. However, this composition of output deemphasizes estimates that are not touched off by recent incidents, cut across narrow boundaries by addressing themselves to more comprehensive realities and issues, and do so in a speculative, forward-looking manner. In this memorandum, I am referring only to estimates of a primarily political character. The focus would be on a complex of interdependent political, military and economic developments and prospects that are bound, through their interrelationships, to affect US interests. The focus would not be restricted to a single country. Obviously, two fine estimates on, say,

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